

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A plate assembly comprising:
a plate member having a recessed portion; and
a lid member mounted on said plate member to cover said recessed portion,
wherein said plate member has a bonded surface which is formed so as to surround said recessed portion, said lid member being bonded to said bonded surface with an adhesive which permeates between said plate member and said lid member around said recessed portion due to capillarity ~~without entering said recessed portion~~, and
said plate member has an adhesive relief portion which is formed around said bonded surface so as to be recessed from said bonded surface.
- 2-3 (canceled).
4. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said lid member has a through hole for injecting said adhesive into a space which is defined between said plate member and said lid member and which is communicated with said recessed portion.
5. (canceled).

6. (original) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said lid member has a through hole for feeding a sample into said recessed portion.

7-9 (canceled).

10. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said lid member has an adhesive injecting hole which is open to a portion of said adhesive relief portion of said plate member in the vicinity of said bonded surface.

11. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said lid member has an adhesive injecting hole, at least a part of which is open to said adhesive relief portion of said plate member.

12. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said lid member has an adhesive injecting hole which is open to said bonded surface on the side of an end portion of said recessed portion.

13. (canceled).

14. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said bonded surface of said plate member has a spacer protrusion which contacts said lid member.

15. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said adhesive relief portion of said plate member has a spacer protrusion which contacts said lid member.

16. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein each of said bonded surface of said plate member and said lid member has a spacer protrusion, and said spacer protrusion of said plate member contacts said spacer protrusion of said lid member.

17. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said plate member has a plurality of spacer protrusions which contact, and a distance between adjacent two of said plurality of spacer protrusions increases as a distance from said recessed portion increases.

18-20. (canceled).

21. (currently amended) A plate assembly comprising:

- a plate member having a recessed portion; and
- a lid member mounted on said plate member to cover said recessed portion,

wherein said plate member has a sealing surface which is formed so as to surround said recessed portion, said plate member having a lid member fixing surface which is separated from said sealing surface by a pass partition groove and which is fixed to said lid member, and a filler permeates between said sealing surface and said lid member due to capillarity ~~without entering said recessed portion.~~

22. (original) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 21, wherein said filler is arranged between said sealing surface and said lid member.

23. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 21, wherein said lid member has a filler injecting hole,

which is open to a portion of said pass partition groove of said plate member in the vicinity of said sealing surface, for injecting said filler into said pass partition groove.

24. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 21, wherein said lid member has a filler injecting hole, at least a part of which is open to said pass partition groove of said plate member, for injecting said filler into said pass partition groove.

25. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 21, wherein said lid member has a filler injecting hole, which is open to said sealing surface on the side of an end portion of said recessed portion of said plate member, for injecting said filler into said pass partition groove.

26. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 21, wherein said sealing surface of said plate member has a spacer protrusion which contacts said lid member.

27. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 21, wherein said lid member fixing surface of said plate member has a spacer protrusion which contacts.

28. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 21, wherein each of said sealing surface of said plate member and said lid member has a spacer protrusion, said spacer protrusion of said plate member contacting said spacer protrusion of said lid member.

29. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 21, wherein said plate member has a plurality of spacer

protrusions which contact said lid member, and a distance between adjacent two of said plurality of spacer protrusions increases as a distance from said recessed portion increases.

30-31. (canceled).

32. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said lid member has a spacer protrusion which contacts said bonded surface of said plate member.

33. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said lid member has a spacer protrusion which contacts said adhesive relief portion of said plate member.

34. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said lid member has a plurality of spacer protrusions which contact said plate member, and a distance between adjacent two of said plurality of spacer protrusions increases as a distance from said recessed portion increases.

35. (canceled).

36. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 21, wherein said lid member has a spacer protrusion which contacts said sealing surface of said plate member.

37. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 21, wherein said lid member has a spacer protrusion which contacts said lid member fixing surface of said plate member.

38. (previously presented) A plate assembly as set forth in claim 21, wherein said lid member has a plurality of spacer

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protrusions which contact said plate member, and a distance between adjacent two of said plurality of spacer protrusions increases as a distance from said recessed portion increases.

39. (canceled).